

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of killing, inactivating or repelling root knot nematodes, which comprises the addition of an effective amount of loquat kernel to nematodes or a growing medium.
2. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the loquat kernel is used as a nematicide.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 2 ~~3~~, wherein the loquat kernel is used as a selective nematicide for root knot ~~plant-parasitic~~ nematodes.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the loquat kernel is used as a selective treatment for root knot nematodes over fungi.
6. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the loquat kernel is used in ground, chopped, freeze dried or spray dried form or in the form of an extract.
7. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 6, wherein the kernel is used in the form of an extract in water.
8. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 6, wherein the kernel is used in the form of an extract in an organic solvent.
9. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 8, wherein the solvent is ethanol.

10. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein all soluble components from the loquat kernel are used.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein all water-soluble components from the loquat kernel are used.

12. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein all organic solvent-soluble components from the loquat kernel are used.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 1, wherein all ethanol-soluble components from the loquat kernel are used.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 6, wherein the loquat kernel is in ground form.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 14, wherein the kernel has been ground so as to pass through a 5mm sieve but such that 50% or more of the ground kernel would not pass through a 0.1mm sieve.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of killing, inactivating or repelling root knot nematodes, which method comprises providing loquat kernel and applying the loquat kernel to the nematodes or to a growing medium ~~an area where the nematodes are likely to exist or to an area to where the nematodes are expected to move.~~

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the method comprises providing the loquat kernel in ground, chopped, freeze dried or spray dried form or in the form of an extract.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the method comprises providing the kernel in the form of an extract in water.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the method comprises providing the kernel in the form of an extract in an organic solvent.

20. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein the solvent is ethanol.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 16, wherein all soluble components from the loquat kernel are provided.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein the loquat kernel is provided in ground form.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the method comprises applying loquat kernel to a growing medium ~~in an area where nematodes are believed to exist or to a growing medium in an area to where nematodes are expected to move.~~

26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein the loquat kernel is applied to or mixed with a growing medium that is to have plants planted in it or is applied to or mixed with a growing medium that has plants planted in it.

27. – 37. (Cancelled)